## Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A system for monitoring usage of a web browser executing on a client computer during interaction with a content server, said system comprising:

a client component for determining whether a user identification code associated with said web browser indicates that said web browser is within a sampled population and for transmitting usage data indicative of said interaction in the event said web browser is included within said sampled population wherein said sampled population comprises a subset of a set of web browsers interacting with said content server; and

a monitoring server for receiving said usage data transmitted by said client component.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said user identification code is stored on said client computer as persistent client side state information.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said client component includes a sampling tag embedded within a web page provided to said web browser by said content server, said sampling tag determining whether persistent client side state information stored on said client computer includes identification information suitable for use as said user identification code.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said sampling tag generates a random number corresponding to said user identification code in the event said identification information is determined to be unsuitable for use as said user identification code.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4 wherein said random number is appended to said persistent client-side state information and thereby stored on said client computer as said user identification code.

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6. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said client component further includes a data collection script, said sampling tag requesting said data collection script to be downloaded from said monitoring server to said client computer in the event that said user identification code indicates that said web browser is included within said sampled population.

7. (Original) The system of claim 3 wherein said random number is stored on said client computer as said user identification code in the form of a sampling cookie distinct from said persistent client side state information, said sampling tag determining whether said user identification code indicates that said web browser is included within said sampled population.

8. (Previously presented) A system for monitoring usage of first and second web browsers during interaction with a content server, said first and second web servers executing on first and second client computers, respectively, said system comprising:

a transmission channel;

a first client component communicatively coupled to said transmission channel, said first client component determining whether a first user identification code associated with said first web browser indicates that said first web browser is within a sampled population and transmitting a first set of usage data indicative of said interaction in the event said first web browser is included within said sampled population wherein said sampled population comprises a subset of a set of web browsers interacting with said content server;

a second client component communicatively coupled to said transmission channel, said second client component determining whether a second user identification code associated with said second web browser indicates that said second web browser is within said sampled population and transmitting a second set of usage data indicative of said interaction in the event said second web browser is included within said sampled population; and

a monitoring sever coupled to said transmission channel, said monitoring server receiving

any of said first set of usage data and said second set of usage data respectively

transmitted by said first client component and said second client component.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said first client component determines whether persistent client side state information stored on said first client computer and associated with said first web browser includes identification information suitable for use as said first user identification code.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein said first client component generates a random number corresponding to said first user identification code in the event said identification information is determined to be unsuitable for use as said first user identification code.

11. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein said first client component includes a first sampling tag and a first data collection script, said first sampling tag requesting said first data collection script to be downloaded from said monitoring server to said first client computer in the event that said first user identification code indicates that said first web browser is included within said sampled population.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein said second client component includes a second sampling tag and a second data collection script, said second sampling tag requesting said second data collection script to be downloaded from said monitoring server to said second client computer in the event that said second user identification code indicates that said second web browser is included within said sampled population.

13. (Original) A method for monitoring usage of a web browser during interaction with a content server comprising the steps of:

determining whether a user identification code associated with said web browser

indicates that said web browser is included within a subset of a set of web

browsers interacting with said content server;

generating usage data indicative of said interaction upon determining that said web

browser is within said subset;

transmitting said usage data; and

receiving and storing said transmitted usage data.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 further including the step of storing said user identification code as persistent client side state information.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13 further including the step of determining whether persistent client side state information associated with said web browser includes identification information suitable for use as said user identification code.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further including the steps of generating a random number corresponding to said user identification code in the event said identification information is determined to be unsuitable for use as said user identification code, and determining whether said random number indicates that said web browser is included within said subset.

17. (Original) A method for monitoring user interaction with a web browser executing on a client computer, said method comprising the steps of:

embedding, within a file, an address of a first server computer;

downloading said file from a second server computer to said client computer;

determining whether a user identification code associated with said web browser

indicates that said web browser is within a randomly selected subset of a set of

web browsers interacting with said second server computer;

generating usage data indicative of said interaction in the event said web browser is

within said randomly selected subset;

transmitting said usage data to said first server computer; and

receiving said usage data at said first server computer and storing said usage data.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 further including the step of storing said user identification code within said client computer as persistent client side state information.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 further including the step of determining whether persistent client side state information associated with said web browser includes identification information suitable for use as said user identification code.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 further including the steps of generating a random number corresponding to said user identification code in the event said identification information is determined to be unsuitable for use as said user identification code, and determining whether said random number indicates that said web browser is included within said randomly selected subset.

21. (Original) An article of manufacture, which comprises a computer readable medium having stored therein a computer program carrying out a method for monitoring user interaction with a web browser, the computer program comprising:

(a) a first code segment for determining that a user identification code associated with said web browser indicates that said web browser is within a subset of a set of web browsers interacting with a content server;

(b) a second code segment for generating and enabling transmission of usage data indicative of said interaction in the event said web browser is within said subset.

22. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein said second code segment includes a third code segment for determining whether persistent client side state information associated with said web browser includes identification information suitable for use as said user identification code.

23. (Original) The article of manufacture wherein said 22 wherein said second code segment includes a fourth code segment for (i) generating a random number corresponding to said user identification code in the event said identification information is determined to be unsuitable for use as said user identification code, and (ii) determining whether said random number indicates that said web browser is included within said subset.